



OFFICE OF STATE PLANNING
STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
2 1/2 BEACON STREET - CONCORD 03301-4497
TELEPHONE: 603-271-2155
FAX: 603-271-1728

LIST OF NEW HAMPSHIRE FOURTH ORDER STREAMS AND HIGHER

REVISION OF MAY 5, 1995

BACKGROUND

The minimum shoreland protection standards established by the Comprehensive Shoreland Protection Act (RSA 483-B) apply to all land located within 250 feet of the public boundary line of public waters. The statute defines public waters as:

- “(a) All fresh water bodies listed in the official list of public waters published by the department of environmental services pursuant to RSA 271:20, II, whether they are great ponds or artificial impoundments.
- (b) Coastal waters, being all waters subject to the ebb and flow of the tide, including the Great Bay Estuary and the associated tidal rivers.
- (c) Rivers, meaning all year-round flowing waters of fourth order or higher, as shown on the now current version of the US Geological Survey 7 1/2' topographic maps. Stream order shall be determined using the Strahler method, whereby the highest year-round streams in a watershed are first order streams, their juncture yields second order streams, the junction of second order streams yields third order streams, et seq. A listing of the streams of fourth order or higher shall be prepared and maintained by the office of state planning and delivered to the commissioner 30 days after the effective date of this act.”

The following list of streams in New Hampshire that are fourth order or higher was prepared to fulfill the requirement of RSA 483-B: XVI, (c). Only perennial streams, as shown on current USGS 7-1/2 minute topographic maps, were considered in determining stream order.

The original list of fourth order streams was published on September 3, 1992. Upon reexamination of the hydrography of the state in coding third order or higher streams to the 1:24,000-scale digital hydrography layer, several changes have been deemed necessary to maintain consistency across the state and to reflect information on the most current 7-1/2 by 15 minute metric quadrangles at the time of enactment of the Act. Rivers with changes are marked with a *.

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List of Fouth Order or Higher Streams

	River	Beginning of Fourth Order or Higher Segment	End of Fourth Order or Higher Segment
1.	Ammonoosuc River	Juncture of Crawford Brook in Carroll	Juncture of Connecticut River
2.	Androscoggin River	Juncture of Magalloway River at Lake Umbagog	Maine Border
3.	Ashuelot River	Juncture of Grassy Brook in Marlow	Juncture of Connecticut River
4.	Baboosic Brook	Juncture of Riddle Brook in Merrimack	Juncture of Souhegan River
5.	Baker River	Juncture of Ore Hill Brook in Warren	Juncture of Pemigewasset River
6.	Bean River	Juncture of North Outlet of Pawtuckaway Pond in Nottingham	Juncture of North River in Nottingham
7.	Bearcamp River	Juncture of Atwood Brook in Sandwich	Inlet of Ossipee Lake
8.	Beards Brook	Juncture of Shedd Brook in Hillsborough	Juncture of Contoocook River
9.	Beaver Brook	Juncture of Golden Brook in Pelham	Massachusetts Border
10.	Bellamy River	Outlet of Bellamy Reservoir in Madbury	Tidal Limit in Dover
11.	Blackwater River	Juncture of Frazier Brook in Andover	Juncture of Contoocook River
12.	Cocheco River	Juncture of Isinglass River in Rochester	Tidal Limit in Dover
13.	Cohas Brook	Juncture of Outlet of Massabesic Lake in Manchester	Juncture of Merrimack River
14.	Cold River	Juncture of Warren Brook in Alstead	Juncture of Connecticut River
15.	Connecticut River	Outlet of Second Connecticut Lake in Pittsburg	Massachusetts Border
16.	Contoocook River	Juncture of outlet of Mountain Brook Reservoir, Jaffrey	Juncture of Merrimack River
17.	Dead Diamond River	Juncture of East & West Branches in Atkinson & Gilmanton Grant	Juncture of Magalloway River
18.	East Branch Dead Diamond River	Juncture of Middle Branch in Atkinson & Gilmanton Grant	Juncture of Dead Diamond River

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	River	Beginning of Fourth Order or Higher Segment	End of Fourth Order or Higher Segment
19.	East Branch Pemigewasset River	Juncture of Carrigain Branch & northeast Tributary in Stillwater (Lincoln)	Juncture of Pemigewasset River
20.	Exeter River	Juncture of Great Brook in Exeter	Tidal Limit in Exeter
21.	Fowler River	Juncture of Bog Brook in Alexandria	Inlet of Newfound Lake
22.	Frazier Brook	Juncture of Kimpton Brook (Outlet of Eagle Pond) in Wilmot	Juncture of Blackwater River
23.	Gale River	Juncture of Ham Branch in Franconia	Juncture of Ammonoosuc River
24.	Isinglass River	Juncture of Nippo Brook in Barrington	Juncture of Cocheco River
25.	Israel River	Juncture of Mill Brook in Jefferson	Juncture of Connecticut River
26.	Lamprey River	Juncture of North Branch River in Raymond	Tidal Limit in Newmarket
27.	Little Massabesic Brook	Juncture of Hook & Preston Brooks (Above Little Massabesic Lake) in Auburn	Juncture of Sucker Brook
28.	Magalloway River	Maine Border with Second College Grant	Inlet of Lake Umbagog
29.	Mascoma River	Juncture of Indian River in Canaan	Juncture of Connecticut River
30.	Merrimack River	Juncture of Pemigewasset & Winnepesaukee Rivers in Franklin	Massachusetts Border
31.	Mink Brook	Juncture of Unnamed Tributary from north in Etna (Hanover) below Ruddsboro Road	Juncture of Connecticut River
32.	Mirey Brook	Juncture of Roaring Brook in Winchester	Juncture of Ashuelot River
33.	Mohawk River	Juncture of Hix Brook in Kitterville (Colebrook)	Juncture of Connecticut River
34.	Moose Brook	Juncture of Perkins Brook in Gorham	Juncture of Androscoggin River
35.	Moosilauke Brook	Juncture of Jackman Brook & Lost River in Woodstock	Juncture of Pemigewasset River

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	River	Beginning of Fourth Order or Higher Segment	End of Fourth Order or Higher Segment
36.	Nashua River	Massachusetts Border with Hollis	Juncture of Merrimack River
37.	Newfound River	Outlet of Newfound Lake in Bristol	Juncture of Pemigewasset River
38.	Nissitissit River	Outlet of Potanipo Pond in Brookline	Massachusetts Border
39.	North River	Juncture of Bean River in Nottingham	Juncture of Lamprey River
40.	North Branch [Contoocook River]	Juncture of Outlets of Island Pond & Robb Reservoir (Bailey Brook) in Stoddard	Juncture of Beards Brook
41.	North Branch Sugar River	Juncture of Sawyer & Stocker Brooks in Grantham	Juncture of Sugar River
42.	Nubanusit Brook	Outlet of MacDowell Reservoir in Peterborough	Juncture of Contoocook River
43.	Ossipee River	Outlet of Berry Bay in Effingham Falls	Maine Border
44.	Outlet of Massabesic Lake	Outlet of Massabesic Lake in Manchester	Juncture of Cohas Brook
45.	Partridge Brook	Juncture of Glebe Brook in Westmoreland	Juncture of Connecticut River
46.	Peabody River	Juncture of West Branch in Green's Grant	Juncture of Androscoggin River
47.	Pemigewasset River	Juncture of Harvard Brook in Lincoln	Juncture of Merrimack River
48.	Pequawket Brook	Outlet of Upper Pequawket Pond in Madison	Juncture of Swift River
49.	Pine River	Juncture of Beech River in Ossipee	Inlet of Ossipee Lake
50.	Piscataquog River	Juncture of Dudley Brook in Weare	Juncture of Merrimack River
51.	Saco River	Juncture of Sawyer River in Hart's Location	Maine Border
52.	Salmon Falls River	Outlet of Milton Pond in Milton	Tidal Limit in Rollinsford
53.	Smith River	Juncture of Smith Brook in Grafton	Juncture of Pemigewasset River

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	River	Beginning of Fourth Order or Higher Segment	End of Fourth Order or Higher Segment
54.	Soucook River	Juncture of Pickard Brook in Loudon	Juncture of Merrimack River
55.	Souhegan River	Juncture of South & West Branches in New Ipswich	Juncture of Merrimack River
56.	South Branch Ashuelot River	Juncture of Nester/Rockwood & Quarry Brooks in Troy	Juncture of Ashuelot River
57.	South Branch Baker River	Juncture of Rocky Brook in Dorchester	Juncture of Baker River
58.	South Branch Piscataquog River	Juncture of Middle Branch in New Boston	Juncture of Piscataquog River
59.	Spicket River	Juncture of Providence Hill Brook & Outlet of Arlington Hill Reservoir in Salem	Massachusetts Border
60.	Stocker Brook	Juncture of Eastman & Bog Brooks in Grantham	Juncture of North Branch Sugar River
61.	Stony Brook	Juncture of Outlet of Wilton Reservoir in Wilton	Juncture of Souhegan River
62.	Sucker Brook	Juncture of Clark Pond & Little Massabesic Brooks in Auburn Village	Inlet of Massabesic Lake
63.	Sugar River	Juncture of Trask Brook in Newport	Juncture of Connecticut River
64.	Suncook River	Outlet of Suncook Lakes in Barnstead	Juncture of Merrimack River
65.	Swift Diamond River	Juncture of Fourmile Brook in Second College Grant	Juncture of Dead Diamond River
66.	Swift River	Juncture of Pequawket Brook in Conway	Juncture of Saco River
67.	The Branch	Juncture of Otter & Minnewawa Brooks in Keene	Juncture of Ashuelot River
68.	Turkey River	Outlet of Little Turkey Pond in Concord	Juncture of Merrimack River
69.	Upper Ammonoosuc River	Juncture of Keenan Brook in Berlin	Juncture of Connecticut River

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	River	Beginning of Fourth Order or Higher Segment	End of Fourth Order or Higher Segment
70.	Warner River	Juncture of West Branch & Outlet of Todd Lake (Andrew Brook) in Bradford	Juncture of Contoocook River
71.	West Branch Dead Diamond River	Juncture of Roby Brook in Pittsburg	Juncture of Dead Diamond River
72.	Wild River	Juncture of Bull Brook in Bean's Purchase	Maine Border
73.	Winnepesaukee River	Outlet of Paugus Bay, Lake Winnepesaukee in Lakeport (Laconia)	Juncture of Merrimack River